

North-East Kent United Districts.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE COMBINED DISTRICTS OF

NORTH-EAST :: KENT

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

BY

H. C. MENDS GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., etc.

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

SITTINGBOURNE :

W. J. PARRETT, LTD., EAST KENT GAZETTE OFFICE, HIGH STREET.

1921.

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The North-East Kent United Districts Joint Committee.

1920.

Chairman—

HENRY PAYNE, Esq., J.P., C.A.

Vice-Chairman—

W. J. PENNEY, Esq., J.P.

Members—

QUEENBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL.

S. JOHNSON, J.P.

G. H. GILES.

SHEERNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MRS. DURANT.

E. W. JACOBS.

W. J. PENNEY, J.P.

W. N. RULE, J.P., C.C.

A. SPEARS.

SITTINGBOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

E. F. HANDCOCK,

R. A. HADAWAY, J.P.

J. R. MILLEN, J.P.

H. PAYNE, J.P., C.A.

MILTON REGIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

F. DOWN.

W. R. ELGAR, J.P., C.C.

A. REYNOLDS.

MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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A. HINGE.

E. STEVENS.

H. TRIPLOW, J.P.

R. M. WAKELEY, C.C.

*Clerk—*E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Temporary Medical Officer of Health—

H. C. MENDS GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1920.

THE NORTH EAST KENT UNITED DISTRICTS
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH JOINT COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

The past year will, I am sure, compare very favourably with other United Districts.

There has been no serious outbreak of any of the Infectious Diseases.

The different Child Welfares have been a great success, and the number of attendances keep on increasing.

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of your Joint Committee for the courtesy and confidence I have received during my temporary term of office.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDS GIBSON.

A COMPARISON OF THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS DURING 1920.

District.	Estimated Population		Births.			Deaths.			
	For Birth Rate.	For Death Rate.	Total.	Illegitimate and Rate per cent	Birth Rate per 1000 of Populatn.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 of Population.	Infant Deaths under 1 year of age.	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births.
Sheerness	17071	15947	468	17 or 3·6%	27·4	169	10·5	Total. 26	55·5
Queenborough	3485	3485	102	1 or 1·0%	29·2	32	9·1	9	88 2
Sittingbourne	8996	8996	245	13 or 5·3%	27·2	109	12·1	14	57·1
Milton Regis.....	7296	7296	186	7 or 3·7%	25·3	75	10·3	11	58·6
Milton Rural	13444	13444	369	15 or 4·0%	27·4	158	11·7	19	51·4
England and Wales...	..	..	..	..	25·4	..	12·4	..	80

A COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS ETC., OF 1920 WITH 1919.

District.	Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality.	Typhoid.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis, all forms.	Indigenous Malaria.
Sheerness	1920	27.4	10.5	55.5	6	9	47	31	2
	1919	22.2	12.9	78.6	2	9	10	27	7
Queenborough	1920	29.2	9.1	88.2	1	14	8	4	9
	1919	20.3	10.1	98.6	1	27	2	12	22
Sittingbourne	1920	27.2	12.1	57.1	3	37	29	15	—
	1919	20.0	11.3	105.0	—	15	36	19	—
Milton Regis	1920	25.3	10.3	58.6	1	14	31	9	—
	1919	19.4	11.6	21.1	—	15	5	23	—
Milton Rural	1920	27.4	11.7	57.4	—	45	38	14	—
	1919	17.2	13.0	64.6	—	18	55	26	3

Imported Cases of Infectious Disease are not included.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

List of Samples taken within the Sittingbourne Division during the year 1920.

Articles.	Sheerness.	Queenborough.	Sittingbourne.	Milton Regis.	Milton Rural.
New Milk	21	4	35	23	19
Butter	9	5	8	2	4
Margarine	1	2	6	1	5
Lard	—	—	1	1	3
Jam	—	—	1	—	3
Whisky	2	1	2	2	8
Brandy	—	1	1	1	1
Gin	1	—	1	2	1
Rum	—	—	—	—	2
Coffee	1	—	3	—	—
Cocoa	—	1	3	—	—
Sugar	—	—	2	—	2
Flour	—	—	—	1	—
Mustard	—	—	1	1	—
Ginger	—	—	—	—	1
Olive Oil	—	—	1	—	—
Cod Liver Oil	—	—	1	—	—
Iodine	—	—	1	—	—
Citric Acid	—	—	1	—	—
Am. Tincture of Quinine	—	—	1	—	—
Arrowroot	—	—	1	—	—
Oatmeal	—	—	—	1	—
Condensed Milk ..	—	—	2	1	—

THE PAST.

Since I first had the honour of acting as your Temporary Medical Officer of Health for the North-East Kent Districts, much progress has been made as regards the health of your combined Districts, which is apparent to the whole of the population. It has embraced infants from their birth, and even the work of the midwife before birth, through the pre-school days by the agency of the Health Visitor to the school life when medical inspection stepped in, then up to the factory and workshop. In infectious disease at all ages, in Tuberculosis particularly, at Sanatorium or Dispensary, and at the homes in numerous ways the activities of the Department have brought the idea of a service for the health of the public into intimate relation with every individual. This has been the object and to a large extent it has been achieved. This awakening of the public conscience to health matters has justified every bit of work of Public Health Authorities, Hospital Boards, Infant Welfare Committees, and officials, which has been done in this period. This has only been achieved by the cordial co-operation of the voluntary and the professional workers, of the various Authorities and their officials. The record of work done is no mean one, and the soil is now prepared for the seed of progress which is being cast over the land by the new Ministry of Health. As regards the Child Welfare Centres, the development has been enormous, especially at Sittingbourne and Sheerness, and the smaller Centres at Rainham, Murston, and Queenborough, are each doing good work, and I feel sure they will become more and more useful in the time to come.

THE FUTURE.

I hope as time goes on there will be more enthusiasm among the representatives of the different areas in your Combined Districts, and I trust before long to hear that Cottage Hospitals with Maternity and Ante-Natal Centres will soon be started, which are so urgently needed in Sheerness and Sittingbourne. As regards the Ante-Natal work, this might be commenced at once at a cost of only a few pounds per annum.

TUBERCULOSIS.

To fight this deadly disease two things are absolutely necessary:—(1) Fresh air, (2) Proper nourishment. In last year's Report you will find a powerful article written by Dr. Heggs; I should have reproduced it in this Report had I not been asked by my Council to shorten my Report in every way possible.

I understand you intend appointing a whole-time Medical Officer of Health for Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural, and a separate one for Sheerness and Queenborough.

I believe the Medical Officer of Health for Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural is to have the Hospital at Keycol, and the three Child Welfares, viz., Sittingbourne two afternoons a week, Rainham one afternoon a fortnight, and Murston, one afternoon a fortnight. I think most likely Rainham will soon require an attendance every week, if you are fortunate enough to retain the services of your present Health Visitor, who is especially gifted as regards the running of Child Welfares, this extra day she will be able to do, when an Assistant has been appointed, which must soon follow.

The Ministry of Health Inspector told me at her last visit, the recognised number of births for a Health Visitor single-handed was 400 in a confined area, and last year the number of births were over 800 in her unconfined area.

I think you have made a great improvement as regards the health of your conjoint District by prohibiting your Medical Officer of Health to do any school work—Medical Officer of Health Work and School Work can never work well together, except in small Urban Districts—School Inspections require a notice of 14 days, and it is not possible for a Medical Officer of Health in a large area like yours to know that he will not have some much more important duty to attend to on that day; and every time he is prevented from keeping the appointment, the parents of the children to be examined must have fresh notices sent to them by the Head Master or Mistress, and the parents have to come again to the Schools; this always causes much dissatisfaction, as some of them live a long way from the School their children attend. There are only five schooldays a week, and three afternoons a week are taken up by Child Welfares, so I do not see how the Schools are to be properly inspected without neglecting the Welfares. My predecessor had only to attend one Child Welfare a week. As regards Sheerness and Queenborough, the case is quite different, and the Medical Officer of Health could do the School Inspections without interfering with his Medical Officer of Health work or Child Welfares, as it is all in a confined area.

The Child Welfares are doing splendid work, and every attendance requires the services of a Medical Attendant. Your Welfare Committee only appointed me to attend on Mondays at the Sittingbourne Centre, and to leave all the mothers and children who attended on the Thursdays without any medical assistance. I would not allow such a thing to happen, and have attended the Thursday Meetings since March, 1920, without receiving any emolument. As the mothers with their children only attend once a week, had I followed the instructions of the Welfare Committee, none of the Thursday mothers and children would have had any medical supervision; and the same would have occurred with the Murston Welfare up to the end of the year had I not attended it without remuneration.

I conclude your next appointment will be a whole-time Medical Officer of Health. This you will be able to do, as he is not to be a school Medical Officer. If he does the school work he will then only be a part-time man, as the School Officers are under the K.E.C.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.—I am very glad Ante-Natal work is under consideration, as it is often the means of saving the life of a young healthy mother, and also that of the child. I have been able to find a Lady Doctor who makes it her speciality, and one who does no private practice; she is willing to undertake the work if you can give her two sessions in the same day. This, I think, could be arranged with Sheppey Island. The charge per session is 30/0, and you would not require more than one session per month, which would amount to under £20 per annum.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE IN SITTINGBOURNE, MILTON REGIS, AND MILTON RURAL DISTRICTS.

Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918, the three Councils of Sittingbourne Urban District, Milton Regis Urban District, and Milton Rural District, decided to form a joint Committee. It met for the first time in July, 1919, and consisted of the representatives of those Councils upon the Joint Hospital Board, together with certain ladies. In June, 1919, a branch Centre was established at Murston, so that the joint district is now served with a main centre at Chalkwell, which provides for the urban districts of Milton Regis and Sittingbourne, and a few rural parishes, branch centres at Rainham and Murston, so that the whole district is now well provided for. The main centre is open two afternoons each week, and the branch centres fortnightly. In addition, infant consultations are held every morning for special cases at Chalkwell. A Cutting-out and Sewing Class was started in December, and is held weekly on Thursdays from 2 to 4.

A Baby Show was held in July. The number of Babies who competed for the prizes was 280.

I have to thank all the ladies and gentlemen who helped to make it such a great success.

Maternity or ante-natal work is not arranged for yet.

I hope ante-natal work will soon be commenced.

STATISTICS OF MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE WORK DURING 1920.

Births Registered.	Sitting- bourne.	Milton Regis.	Milton Rural.
<i>Births</i> —Notified	261	206	362
Legitimate	248	199	347
Illegitimate	13	7	15
Notified by a Doctor	66	66	121
" " Midwife	195	140	241
<i>Deaths</i> under one year	13	11	19
Legitimate	10	11	17
Illegitimate	3	0	2
<i>Mothers</i> dying in Child Birth	0	0	2
Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	2
<i>All were visited.</i>			
Stillbirths	9	8	9
Midwives practising:—			
Trained	1	1	2
Untrained	—	1	—
Unregistered	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	—	—	1
<i>Visits by Health Visitor:—</i>			
Before Birth	30	25	22
After Birth—first Visits	294	224	398
Ditto revisits	180	210	170
To Children—one to five years	134	148	140
<i>Welcome Attendances:—</i>	At	At Rainham	
Mothers	Chalkwell.	and Murston	
Babies	4773	1242	
	5682	1417	
Names on Registers in three district centres during year:—			
Mothers	624		
Babies	720		

DEATHS OF MOTHERS IN CHILD BIRTH.

District.	Address	Cause of Death.
Milton Rural	Rainham	Puerperal Fever—14 days
„ „	Murston	Tuberculosis—13 days

KEYCOL HILL ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND
SANATORIUM.

This Institution, belonging to the districts of Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural, also receives the infectious cases from Sheerness and Queenborough by agreement.

The work done at this Hospital is shown by the following table.

The Tuberculosis cases are mainly those sent by the Kent County Council from all parts of the county, under an agreement by which this Hospital Board retains 40 beds for this purpose.

ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITALS.

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Scarlet Fever	121	93	41	42	102	151
Diphtheria	216	172	114	67	86	109
Enteric	27	26	9	9	8	8
Tuberculosis	156	150	151	151	143	154
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .	5	9	1	2	2	Nil
Mumps	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	4	Nil
	525	450	316	275	345	422

TABLE XV.—BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1920.

(Provisional figures. Provisional Populations estimated to the middle of 1920 have been used for the purposes of this Table. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of Towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.				
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes of Death.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales.....	25.4	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.19	0.04	0.11	0.15	0.28	0.48	8.3	80	24.3	92.2	6.6	1.2
96 Great Towns, including London (Census Popula- tions exceeding 50,000)	26.2	12.5	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.04	0.14	0.16	0.31	0.43	10.4	85	31.3	92.2	7.1	0.7
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000— 50,000)	24.9	11.3	0.02	0.00	0.19	0.03	0.10	0.14	0.27	0.38	7.8	80	16.5	93.2	5.3	1.5
London	26.5	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.05	0.17	0.22	0.30	0.47	9.5	75	46.8	91.2	8.6	0.2

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

*Urban District of
Sittingbourne,*

For the Year 1920.

Sittingbourne Urban District Council,

1920=21.

Chairman—J. R. MILLEN, Esq.*

Vice-Chairman—L. J. GOODHEW, Esq.

COUNCILLOR H. E. BERRY.*

„ M. EASTON.

„ F. FILMER.*

„ MRS. FRENCH.*

„ R. A. HADAWAY, J.P.

„ E. F. HANDCOCK.*

„ C. U. IND, M.D.*

„ W. E. JARRETT.

„ MRS. JARRETT.*

„ H. PAYNE, J.P., C.A.*

Note.—Those marked * are Members of the Health Committee,
Councillor C. U. Ind, Chairman.

Clerk to the Council—G. H. POTTER.

Acting Surveyor—W. LEONARD GRANT.

Sanitary Inspector—PERCY SCHOFIELD.

Health Visitor—Nurse E. H. FÜRMINER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1920.

TO THE SITTINGBOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1920.

The chief public needs of the district are more housing accommodation, the universal provision of flushing cisterns, which is being gradually carried out, and the provision of a Cottage Hospital for the joint Districts, and, if possible, a Maternity Ward attached. There has been a very large improvement as regards sanitary dustbins during the past year.—I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON.

BIRTHS.—During 1920 there were 245, while in 1919 only 181, showing an increase of 64. This is very satisfactory. The Birth Rate in 1920 was 27.2 compared with 20.3 in 1919 of 1,000 population.

DEATHS.—During 1920 there were 109. The Death Rate was 12.1 of 1,000 of population. In 1919 it was 11.3. In 1918 it was 18.4, and in 1917 it was 13.8.

THE INFANT MORTALITY rate was 57.1 per 1,000 births. In 1919 the rate was 105 per 1,000 births. These figures are most satisfactory, showing a large improvement in the Infant Mortality. This proves what a splendid work your Child Welfare is doing, and great credit is due to your Health Visitor, Nurse Furninger, for the admirable way she manages it.

In England and Wales the rate was 80 per 1,000 births.

CAUSES OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1920.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Bronchitis	1	3	4
Heart Disease	9	6	15
Consumption or Tuberculosis of Lungs	3	2	5
Other Tuberculosis.....	2	0	2
Cancer	7	6	13
Pneumonia	3	1	4
Congenital Debility	4	5	9
Influenza	1	4	5
Other Chest Diseases.....	1	0	1
Kidney Disease	0	1	1
Violence.....	3	1	4
Other Causes	30	16	46
Totals.....	64	45	109

SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1920.

The total number of cases of notifiable Infectious Disease which have occurred during the year is given below, with the average number for the preceding five years.

TYPHOID FEVER.—Three cases have appeared, with an average of one case per annum for the last five years.

DIPHTHERIA.—Thirty-seven cases were notified. The average number for the preceding five years was 35 per annum.

SCARLET FEVER.—Twenty-nine cases were notified. The average number for the preceding five years was 19 per annum.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Twelve cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Consumption. Three cases of Tuberculosis in other organs were notified. The average for the preceding five years was 15.

ERYSIPELAS.—Two cases of females, as compared with an average of three during the preceding five years.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—One case, as compared with an average of one per annum for the past five years.

No cases of Puerperal Fever or Cerebro-Spinal Fever occurred.

MALARIA.—Five imported cases of ex-soldiers infected abroad.

Notifications of communicable diseases from Schools.—Very few cases were reported during the year—One case of Mumps, one of Scarlet Fever, and one of Diphtheria.

DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Sex.	Age.	Certified Cause of Death.
1	M.	2 hours	Congenital Heart Disease
2	F.	16 days.....	Bronchitis
3	F.	4 days.....	Congenital Heart Disease
4	M.	10 days.....	Premature Birth
5	F.	6 days.....	Premature Birth
6	M.	10 months	Bronchitis and Laryngisms Stridulus
7	M.	11 months	Epidemic Diarrhoea
8	M.	15 days.....	Premature Birth
9	M.	20 minutes	Difficult Parturition
10	M.	29 days.....	Acute Diarrhoea (2) Premature Birth
11	F.	13 hours	Premature Birth
12	F.	18 days.....	Premature Birth
13	F.	3 days.....	Premature Birth

7 Males)
6 Females) Total 13

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Sittingbourne is essentially an industrial district, chiefly dependent on the Paper Mills, Brickmaking, and Cement industries.

During the summer months a large number of the population are employed in the fruit and hop gardens of the surrounding rural districts, but since the outbreak of war, the acreage of the hop gardens has decreased.

The roads, both main and private, are in a satisfactory condition. The main roads are tar-sprayed. The estimated assessable value of the district is £35,416, and a rate of 1d. in the £ produces about £147 nett.

The General District Rate is approximately 3/6 in the £ for the half-year.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—The majority of the houses are already connected to the Council sewers, and the remaining houses are steadily being connected. I hope, now that the war is over, to see most of the existing cesspools abolished, and also that the W.C.'s will be fitted with a proper flushing apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY.—Satisfactory.

SCAVENGING.—It is very desirable that the collection and storage should be in proper covered carts and bins only.

I take this opportunity to mention how I appreciate the valuable work done by your Sanitary Inspector, who is highly competent and conscientious, and performs his duties with skill, efficiency, and tact.

SITTINGBOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1920.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1920.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

From the following table it will be noted that many sanitary improvements have been carried out during the year. Owing to the high cost of building materials and labour, together with scarcity of labour in the building trade, one has found it necessary to proceed cautiously, and deal only with defects which have called for more urgent attention, leaving others less important, but which would have been dealt with in more normal times.

With few exceptions, little opposition has been met with from owners of property, and it is pleasing to record that in no case has it been found necessary to institute proceedings to enforce compliance with any notice served.

Special attention has been given to the matter of providing sanitary dustbins throughout the District. Already there is a great improvement apparent in backyards, which previously were often found in an insanitary and untidy condition.

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out under above heading:—

Number of houses inspected and details recorded	399
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation ...	4
Number of houses represented as unfit for human habitation	4
Number of houses where Closing Orders were made	4
Number of houses made fit for human habitation without Closing Orders	375
Number of houses made habitable after Closing Orders	0
Number of houses for which Demolition Orders were served	18
Number of houses demolished	5
Other house inspections, details not being recorded ...	429
Total number of houses at which sanitary defects were found	808
Number of houses for which Intimation Notices were served	808
Number of houses for which Statutory Notices were served	101
Total number of nuisances abated	1798
Complaints received and dealt with	79
Number of Re-inspections to Properties under notice for repairs	1664

Summary of nature and number of nuisances abated during the year:—

Damp houses remedied	74
Houses redecorated	113
Houses cleansed (by occupier)	10
Roofs repaired	135
Gutters & down pipes cleansed or repaired	94
Doors or windows repaired	118
Floors or plaster repaired	204
Grates or coppers repaired	46
Paving relaid or repaired	23
Drains repaired	81
Drains cleansed	18
Drains connected to new sewer	30
New sinks provided	54
Water closets repaired	109
New water closets provided	2

Privies converted into water closets	3
Sanitary dustbins provided	611
Urinals cleansed or repaired	4
Offensive accumulations removed	5
Other nuisances remedied	53

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Investigations have been made, and the necessary disinfection carried out, in connection with 29 cases of Scarlet Fever, 37 cases of Diphtheria, 3 cases of Typhoid Fever, 15 cases of Tuberculosis, and 5 cases of Malaria. Disinfection of one school was also carried out.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEATSHOPS, &c.

There are 6 slaughterhouses on the register, and these are kept in a satisfactory condition. In addition there are 12 meat shops, 12 fish shops, and 7 fried fish shops.

The following table shows the kind, condition, and weights of the various articles of food which have been condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year:—

Kind of Food.	Disease or Condition.	Weight in lbs.
BOVINE—		
8 whole Bovine Carcasses, Organs, and Offal	Tuberculous ..	4,787
Beef, fresh (parts)	Tuberculous ..	806
Ditto ditto	Unsound	30
Beef, frozen	Unsound	195
Organs and Offal	Tuberculous ..	204
PIGS—		
3 whole Carcasses	Fevered	250
1 ditto	Dropsical	56
SHEEP—		
2 whole Carcasses	Unsound	113
FISH—		
Mackerel	Unsound	280
Herrings	Unsound	448
Cat Fish	Unsound	42
MISCELLANEOUS—		
Corned Beef	Unsound	90
Preserved Fruits	Unsound	58
Cheese	Unsound	14
Raisins	Unwholesome	14
Tinned Fish	Unsound	23
Rabbit (frozen)	Unsound	48
Milk (condensed)	Unsound	704
		— 951 lbs.
		Total .. 8,162 lbs.

From the above table it will be noted that the amount of Tuberculous meat condemned is still very large, being more than half the total weight of food which was found unfit for human consumption.

I wish to record my appreciation of the way in which the butchers and salesmen have assisted me in this department of my work. To the general public this attitude should give every assurance.

265 visits to the above premises have been made during the year.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, & MILKSHOPS REGULATIONS.

There are 4 registered cowkeepers, 4 shops from which milk is sold, and 13 milk sellers in your district. Eight of the latter bring milk from, and reside outside the district, 33 inspections have been carried out at the above premises.

The following defect was noted at one cowshed and subsequently remedied:—Defective floor.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 27 factories and 56 workshops and workplaces, including 7 bakehouses, on the register. 90 inspections have been made during which the following defects were found and subsequently remedied:—Dirty water closet 1, insufficient lavatory accommodation 2, and defective lavatory accommodation 1.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There is only one common lodging-house in your district. Six inspections have been made, and the following defects found and remedied:—Dirty rooms, defective floor, window frames, and ashes accommodation.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Two "Rat Weeks" have been held during the year, one during the week commencing January 12th, and the other during the week commencing November 8th. Publicity to each of these efforts was given in the local Press, and this was supplemented by the sending out of 76 circulars, and the making of 193 personal visits.

The response on each occasion was very gratifying and goes to show that the general public are now realising that in the rodent we have a real enemy, and one who attacks not only our financial interests, but also the health of the nation.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the ready support which has been given me in the discharge of my duties during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

PERCY SCHOFIELD.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

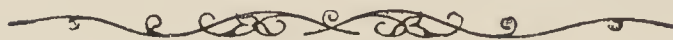
OF THE

*Urban District of
Milton Regis,*

For the Year 1920.

Milton Regis Urban District Council.

1920-21.



Chairman—W. R. ELGAR, Esq., J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman—G. BOWES, Esq.

COUNCILLOR T. BUGGS.

„ F. DOWN.

„ J. FILMER.

„ S. GRANSDEN.

„ P. J. JEFFERY.

„ H. S. KNOWLES.

„ MRS. MAUNDRELL.

„ W. J. PULLEN.

„ A. REYNOLDS.

„ A. E. WOOD.

Clerk to the Council—JOHN DIXON, Esq., M.A., Solicitor.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector—Mr. A. W. CALLAWAY.

Health Visitor—Nurse E. H. FURMINGER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1920.

TO THE MILTON REGIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1920.

The chief public health needs of your District are (1) more efficient sanitary work, as I have found it quite impossible to have regular house-to-house inspections made, owing to your Sanitary Inspector being only a part-time Officer. I consider house-to-house inspections the most important part of his duties, and which is urgently required in your Urban District. (2) Housing accommodation. (3) The provision of a Cottage Hospital for the joint Districts, and if possible to have a Maternity Ward attached. This is particularly needed in your Urban District, in consequence of the overcrowding. The covered Dustbins which are now about to be provided, is a great move towards sanitary efficiency.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON.

I advise the following alteration as regards the sanitation in your District. I do not consider your present arrangement at all satisfactory, neither do I consider it necessary for you to have an all-time Sanitary Inspector, but I most strongly advise you to try and make an arrangement with Milton Rural and Sittingbourne, so as to have one Sanitary Inspector for your new combined District, and provide him with an Assistant. The Child Welfare Centre works perfectly, and that is a combine of Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural. I feel very strongly on this point, for as matters stand at present it is quite impossible for you to have a proper house-to-house inspection made, which in your case is absolutely necessary, as several of the houses are at the present time quite unfit for human habitation.

I am sure Mr. Callaway does his utmost as regards the welfare of your Urban District, but he cannot do impossibilities. I feel sure if this alteration is made you will never regret it.

If this arrangement is made the Sanitary Inspector, having an Assistant, would be able to undertake all the duties of Sanitary Inspector for the part of the Port of Faversham Authority, situated in Milton Regis, Milton Rural, and Sittingbourne.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Census.	Census.	Census.	Census.	Esti- mated
Year	1881 ...	1891 ...	1901 ...	1911 ...	1920
Population .	4210 ...	5213 ...	7056 ...	7477 ...	7296

POPULATION.—For the Death and Birth Rate the Registrar-General has estimated the population for 1920 at 7,296.

BIRTHS.—During 1920 there were 186 births registered in the District, compared with 142 in 1919, 128 in 1918, 145 in 1917. Of the births 7 were illegitimate, which is 3.7 per cent. The Birth Rate for 1920 is 25.3 per 1,000 of population, compared with 19.4 in 1919. The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 25.4.

DEATHS.—In 1920 there were 75 deaths registered of residents, compared with 82 in 1919, 95 in 1918, 92 in 1917. The Death Rate was 10.3 per 1,000. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 12.4.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—During 1920 there were 11 deaths of Infants under one year of age, or an Infantile Mortality rate of 58.6 per 1,000 births. This is much to be regretted, though it compares favourably with England and Wales as a whole. In the year 1919 the rate was 21.1, in 1918, 94; 1917, 89 per 1,000. The Infant Mortality for England and Wales is 80.

Of the infantile deaths the chief causes are given below, compared with previous years.

Causes.	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Common Infectious Diseases	1	1	1	—	1
Diarrhœa	1	1	3	—	1
Premature Birth and Wasting Disease	3	5	5	4	2
Tuberculosis Diseases	1	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	7	6	3	3	7
Totals	13	13	12	7	11

SUMMARY.

	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
Death Rate	10.3	11.6	15	13.7	16.4 per 1,000 pop.
Birth Rate	25.3	19.4	18	19.4	21.3
Infantile Mortality ...	58.6	21.1	94.0	89.0	82 per 1,000 births
Notification of:—					
Enteric Fever	1	5*	0	2	0
Diphtheria	14	15	20	28	20
Scarlet Fever	31	5	1	8	2
Tuberculosis	9	23	21	10	23
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	5	5	7	11	9

* These were infected outside your district.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1920.

Diseases.	Males.	Females	Total.
Heart Disease	4	2	6
Cancer	12	6	18
Bronchitis.....	2	3	5
Consumption or Tuberculosis	4	1	5
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Violence.....	3	—	3
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Kidney Disease	—	—	—
Congenital Debility	2	—	2
Other Causes	21	8	29
Totals.....	51	24	75

SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE STATISTICS
FOR 1920.

The following figures show the incidence of notifiable Infectious Disease upon the Urban District of Milton Regis during the year 1920.

TYPHOID FEVER.—One case was notified. In 1919 five cases occurred. In 1918 no case was infected, and in 1917 2 cases.

DIPHTHERIA.—Fourteen cases were notified. The cases were scattered throughout the district. In 1919 17 cases occurred, in 1918 20 cases were notified, and in 1917 28 cases.

SCARLET FEVER.—Thirty-one cases were notified. In 1919 eight cases. During 1918 one case occurred. In 1917 one case.

TUBERCULOSIS.—(A) **PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS OR CONSUMPTION.**—Nine cases were notified; (B) **OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.** No cases were notified. The total number of 9 cases compared with 23 cases in 1919, 21 in 1918, 10 in 1917, and 21 in 1916.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—No case, as compared with 2 in 1919, 1 in 1918, and 1 in 1917.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.—No case, as compared with 3 in 1919, 1 in 1918, and 2 in 1917.

ERYSIPELAS.—Six cases. None in 1919.

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF COMMUNICABLE
DISEASES.

There were only 17 cases of Whooping Cough.

ELEVEN DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE DURING 1920.

	Sex.	Age.	Certified Cause of Death.
1	M.	7 months ..	Broncho-Pneumonia
2	M.	14 days.....	Mitral and Aortic Cardiac Disease Bronchitis
3	M.	1 month....	Prematurity. Syncope
4	F.	2 months ..	Broncho-Pneumonia. Heart Failure
5	M.	3 months ..	Teething. Acute Gastritis and Heart Failure
6	M.	6 months ..	Probably a Fit
7	F.	1 month....	Whooping Cough
8	M.	16 days.....	Epidemic Diarrhoea. Congenital Debility
9	M.	3 days.....	Hemorrhage of the Bowels
10	M.	16 days....	Acute Celullitis of Face
11	M.	1 month....	Erysipelas

9 Males } all belonging to Milton Regis.
2 Females }

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The Urban District of Milton Regis has an area of 2,558 acres, and consists of a large, old, and small new part, divided by the main London to Dover Road. To the north of the London Road, lies old Milton, with a great deal of old cottage property. To the south lies the new part, comprised of a better class of house property.

The chief industries are brick and cement making, also a large paper making mill. London refuse (used in brick making) is dumped on brickfields close to the town.

ROADS.—There are five miles of main roads, and 18 miles 4 furlongs of other roads. Both main and bye-roads are in a satisfactory condition. Tar-painting is done on the main roads, and the chief of the bye-roads.

HOUSING.—No vacant houses fit for habitation. 18 new houses are now being erected. This number, I hope, will be increased.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are three such premises registered in the district, and careful watching is necessary so as to keep them in a sanitary condition, and in conformance with the bye-laws. Bye-laws for houses let in lodgings are in force in the district.

WATER SUPPLY, DRAINAGE, AND SEWERAGE, SCAVENGING.
—Nothing to report.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1920.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

Number of houses inspected and details recorded ...	164
Number of sanitary defects found and notices served	58
Number of Nuisances found and reported	52

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Investigations have been made, and the necessary disinfection carried out, in connection with:—Diphtheria 14, Scarlet Fever 31, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 9, Malaria 3, and Typhoid 1.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT SHOPS.

There are three Slaughter-Houses on the register, and four Meat Shops, and these are kept in a satisfactory condition. The following was condemned as unfit for human consumption:—26lbs. of meat.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS & MILK SHOPS REGULATIONS.

At the present time there are ten persons registered under the above Order, and they are divided as follows:—Registered Cowkeepers 3, Purveyors of Milk 7. One defect was noted at a cowshed, which was subsequently remedied.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There are 14 factories and 11 workshops on the register. Periodical inspections have been made from time to time, and sanitary improvements carried out where necessary.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are three houses in the district registered as Common Lodging-Houses, and from inspections made the same have been kept in accordance with the Bye-laws.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There is only one house in the district registered as a House-Let-in-Lodgings, and this has been kept in accordance with the Bye-Laws.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are in the district two rag and bone dealers, one Tallow Chandler, one Fellmonger, and one Fried Fish Shop, and from inspections made they were found to be kept in compliance with the Bye-laws.

(Signed) A. W. CALLAWAY,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Town Hall, Milton Regis,
May 2nd, 1921.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Rural District of Milton,

For the Year 1920.

Milton Rural District Council.

1920-21.



Chairman—W. F. WOOD, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman—H. TRIPLOW, Esq., J.P.

COUNCILLOR G. ANDREWS, J.P.

„	W. R. FARMER.
„	E. J. GOODHEW.
„	T. GOODHEW.
„	A. HINGE.
„	W. HOOKER.
„	W. T. LEWIS.
„	G. QUINNELL.
„	E. STEVENS.
„	STANLEY STEVENS.
„	W. J. THOMAS.
„	R. M. WAKELEY, C.C.
„	S. T. WAKELEY.
„	W. STEWART WOOD.

Clerk to the Council—E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Surveyor—ERNEST C. PEARCY.

Sanitary Inspector and Food Inspector—P. SCHOFIELD.

Health Visitor—Nurse E. H. FURMINGER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1920.

TO THE MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1920.

The chief public health needs of your district are (1) Sewerage for Rainham parish, which would allow (2) better cesspool emptying arrangements for other parishes. If this cannot be done storm water receptacles should be provided. The present cesspits are quite unable to cope with the sewage and storm water combined. The Rural District should support the proposal for a Cottage Hospital for the combined district.

NURSING.—A District Nurse, who also could practice midwifery, is needed at Rainham.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

DURING 1920.		Average of No. of cases for past 5 years.	
Scarlet Fever	38	...	31
Diphtheria	45	...	38
Puerperal Fever	1	...	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Nil	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	...	19
Other forms of Tuberculosis	Nil	...	2
Erysipelas	1	...	4
Opthalmia Neonatorum	2	...	2
Enteric Fever	Nil	...	2
Malaria	2	...	—

SUMMARY OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
FOR THE YEAR 1920.

TYPHOID FEVER.—No cases occurred during the year, as compared with an average of 2 cases per annum during the preceding five years.

DIPHTHERIA.—Forty-five cases were notified. Of the 45 1 occurred in Bobbing, 1 in Hartlip, 1 in Iwade, 3 in Murston, 3 in Newington, 35 in Rainham, and 1 in Upchurch. The figure of 45 compares with an average for the preceding 5 years of 38 cases per annum.

SCARLET FEVER.—Thirty-eight cases, of which 4 occurred in Bobbing, 6 in Borden, 3 in Bredgar, 1 in Murston, 2 in Newington, 17 in Rainham, 2 in Rodmersham, 1 in Tong, and 2 in Tunstall. The average for the preceding 5 years was 31 per annum.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Fourteen cases, of which all were Consumption of the Lungs, and none were of the disease in other organs. The number for the preceding 5 years was 19 per annum.

ERYSIPELAS.—One case, compared with an average of 4 for the preceding 5 years.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Two cases, compared with an average of 2 for the preceding 5 years.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.—No case, as compared with an average of 1 during the preceding 5 years.

MALARIA.—Two cases were notified of ex-soldiers with imported infection. During 1919 8 cases were notified.

No case of Puerperal Fever occurred during the year.

INFECTIOUS CASES NOTIFIED IN THE DIFFERENT PARISHES.

Disease.	Bapchild	Bobbing	Borden	Bredgar	Halstow	Hartlip	Iwade	Kingsdown	Milsted	Murston	Newington	Rainham	Rodmersham	Tong	Tunstall	Urchurch	Total
Diphtheria	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	3	35	—	—	—	1	45
Scarlet Fever	—	4	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	17	2	1	2	—	38
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	3	—	2	—	—	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total.....	—	6	7	3	1	1	1	—	1	9	8	57	2	4	2	1	103

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR DURING 1920.

	Sex	Age.	Causes of Death.
1	M.	4 days.....	Premature Birth
2	M.	3 days.....	Premature Birth. Syncope
3	F.	11 days.....	Acute Bronchitis
4	F.	1 month....	Catarrh. Eclampsia
5	F.	11 days.....	Icteous Neonatorum
6	M.	16 hours	Atelectasis Pulmonum
7	M.	5 days.....	Marasmus
1	M.	4 months ..	Broncho-Pneumonia and Convulsions
9	F.	1 month....	Gastro-Enteritis
10	M.	4 months ..	Infective Enteritis
11	F.	14 hours	Natural Causes, due to Syncope caused by mal-formation of the heart
12	F.	12 hours	Premature Birth
13	F.	2 days.....	Premature Birth and Congenital Debility
14	F.	2 days.....	Congenital Atelectasis
15	M.	22 days.....	Marasmus
16	M.	6 months ..	Acute Bronchitis
17	F.	5 weeks	Natural Causes—probably Convulsions
18	M.	7 months ..	Laryngeal Diphtheria
19	M.	2 days.....	Premature Birth

10 Males } Total 19
9 Females }

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF COMMUNICABLE
DISEASES FROM ALL THE SCHOOLS IN THE RURAL
DISTRICT DURING 1920.

	Ringworm	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Measles.	Mumps.	Others.
January	—	1	1	32	7	1
February ..	—	2	1	79	16	—
March.....	—	—	—	—	—	1
April	1	1	1	2	—	4
May.....	—	8	4	—	—	2
June	—	—	2	—	—	6
July	—	—	1	—	—	8
August	—	1	—	—	—	2
October	—	1	3	—	—	7
November ..	—	—	17	—	—	4
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	3
Totals..	1	14	30	113	23	38

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.—The growth of the district is shown thus:

	Census.	Census.	Census.	Census.	Esti- mated.
Year	..... 1881 ...	1891 ...	1901 ...	1911 ...	1920
Population	.11195 ...	11453 ...	12123 ...	12445 ...	13444

Population of your district estimated by the Registrar-General for the year 1920 is 13444.

BIRTHS.—During 1920 there were 369 births in our district, compared with 232 in 1919, 224 in 1918, 258 in 1917. The Birth Rate for 1920 per 1,000 of the population was 27.4, compared with 17.2 for 1919, 16.4 for the year 1918, and 25.4 for the whole of England and Wales. Great care must be taken to preserve infantile life, and in this respect your Health Visitor is doing good work. Of the births, 4.0 per cent. were illegitimate, compared with 6.4 per cent. in 1919, 8 per cent. in 1918, and 6.9 per cent. in 1917.

DEATHS.—During 1920 there were 158 deaths belonging to the civil population. The Death Rate was 11.7 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 13 in 1919, 15.2 in 1918, and 15.2 in 1917. Of these total deaths 19 were under one year of age, compared with 15 in 1919, 14 in 1918, and 19 in 1917. In 1916 there were 24, and in 1915 there were 34 deaths under one year of age.

	1920	1919	1918	1917
Population estimated	.....13444	13468	13187	13812
Death rate (belonging to the district per 1,000)	..... 11.7	13.0	15.2	15.2
Infant Mortality Rate	..... 5.1%	6.4%	6.2%	6.3%
Birth Rate	..... 27.4	17.2	16.9	18.6
Total Infectious Diseases Notified (excluding Tuberculosis)	89	77	46	60
Typhoid Fever	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Diphtheria	45	18	22	22
Scarlet Fever	38	55	19	28
Deaths from Tuberculosis	16	22	18	22

During the year there were 19 deaths under one year of age, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 51.4 per 1,000 births. The rate for England and Wales is 80.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1920.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	6	15
Other Tuberculosis.....	1	—	1
Heart Disease	12	9	21
Kidney Disease	7	7	14
Cancer	10	8	18
Congenital Debility	4	6	10
Bronchitis	5	1	6
Violence.....	3	—	3
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Influenza	3	—	3
Diarrhoea	1	1	2
Confinement.....	—	—	0
Other Causes	26	33	59
Total	83	75	158

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Milton Rural District contains 16 parishes, which surround on all sides the Urban Districts of Sittingbourne and Milton Regis. The parishes are typically agricultural, except those bordering the Swale and Creeks, where brick and cement making have caused aggregations of Urban population in the portions of these parishes near the Creeks, notably Rainham (population about 3,899) and Murston (1,384).

INDUSTRIES.—(1) Agricultural — Chiefly fruit and hops. Since the War, the acreage of hops has been decreased. (2) Brick; and (3) cement making and (4) the barge industry, which brings refuse from London for brickmaking, and the exportation of bricks.

ROADS.—There are 17 miles of main roads, and of bye-roads 101 miles. As a rule these roads are in good condition, but some of the roads which are not taken over by the Council are in a very bad state.

There are 224 dwelling-houses of rateable value up to £12, and 2,822 of rateable value £12 to £20. Since the last census in 1911 there have been 58 houses built, of the rateable value up to £12, and 12 of the rateable value of £12 to £20. Three houses have been closed by the Council during the year. The need for houses has been ascertained in each parish. It is suggested that 65 houses may be required — 12 of these at Rainham, 20 at Murston, and 3 or 4 in certain other parishes. A Housing scheme is now under consideration of the Ministry of Health.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—Every year a certain amount of improvement is being carried out, but there still remains

much more to be done. I hope soon to see that all the W.C.'s have proper flushing cisterns provided. The need for the sewerage of Rainham is as urgent as ever. This should be proceeded with at the earliest possible moment.

WATER SUPPLY.—This, taken as a whole, is very satisfactory, both as regards purity and quantity. The district is supplied by the Sittingbourne Water Works, the Rainham Water Works, and the Mid-Kent Water Company. The mains in some parishes might be extended with advantage.

The Sittingbourne Works supply the following parishes:—Murston, Bapchild, Tong, and parts of Bobbing, Newington, and Borden. The Rainham Works supply Rainham, Upchurch, Hartlip, Newington, and Halstow. The Mid-Kent Company supply Kingsdown, Milstead, Rodmersham Bredgar, Borden, Tonge, and Tunstall. The Milton Regis Works supply Iwade.

These waters are all of good quality, and the Rainham water, which comes from the green sand, the boring being at a depth of 900 feet, is of excellent quality. The great drawback to the Sittingbourne water is its hardness, having 19.1 degrees, compared with 0.5 of the Rainham water, per gallon.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are none in the district.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.—There are 9 slaughterhouses in the district, as follows:—Rainham 4, Newington 1, Bapchild 1, Borden 1, Halstow 1, Upchurch 1.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There are none in the district.

TO THE MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL. SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1920.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

Systematic house-to-house inspection has been carried out during the year in most of the Rural Parishes. From the following summary it will be noted that many sanitary improvements have been carried out, although great difficulty has at times been experienced in getting repairs attended to, owing to shortage of labour in the building trade, and the fact that in many Parishes there are no builders available.

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out under above heading:—

Number of houses inspected and details recorded	438
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation ...	0
Number of houses represented as unfit for human habitation	0
Number of houses where Closing Orders were made	0
Number of houses made habitable without Closing Orders	274
Number of houses made habitable after Closing Orders	0
Number of houses for which Demolition Orders were served	0
Number of houses demolished	0
Number of house inspections, details not being recorded	164
Total number of houses at which sanitary defects were found	441
Number of houses for which Intimation Notices were served	441
Number of houses for which Statutory Notices were served	11
Total number of nuisances abated	1116
Complaints received and dealt with	58
Number of re-inspections to properties under notice for repairs	879
Summary of nature and number of nuisances abated during the year:—	
Damp houses remedied	60
Houses redecorated	70
Houses cleansed (by occupier)	4
Roofs repaired	62
Gutters or downpipes cleansed or repaired	63
Doors or windows repaired	76
Floors or plaster repaired	127
Grates or coppers repaired	48
Paving relaid or repaired	38
Drains repaired	112
Drains cleansed	26
New drains provided	50
Drains connected to new sewer	6
New sinks provided	49
Water closets or privies repaired	216
Water closets provided in lieu of privies ...	26
Urinals cleansed or repaired	1
Offensive accumulations removed	7
Animal nuisances remedied	3
New or improved water supply provided ...	16
Other nuisances remedied	34

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Investigations have been made, and the necessary disinfection carried out, in connection with 38 cases of Scarlet Fever, 45 cases of Diphtheria, 14 cases of Tuberculosis, and 2 cases of Malaria.

In connection with outbreaks of disease, six schools have been disinfected.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEATSHOPS, &c.

There are 8 slaughterhouses in your District, distributed as follows:—Bapchild 1, Borden 1, Halstow 1, Newington, 1, Rainham 3, Upchurch 1. In addition there are 19 meatshops and 3 fishshops. 301 inspections have been made during the year.

The following table shows the kind, condition, and weight of the various articles of food which have been condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Beef, including one whole carcase (Tuberculous)	880lbs.
Beef (unsound)	31lbs.
Pork (Tuberculous)	60lbs.
Fish (unsound)	60lbs.
Offal (Tuberculous)	56lbs.

It is pleasing to record that no opposition has been met with in the discharge of my duties from any of the salesmen in your District.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 27 Cowkeepers in your district, and these are distributed as follows:—Bobbing 2, Borden 1, Bredgar 4, Halstow 3, Hartlip 2, Kingsdown 1, Milsted 4, Murston 2, Newington 1, Rainham 3, Rodmersham 1, Tunstall 1, Upchurch 2. Three new Cowkeepers have been registered during the year. The following defects were found and remedied:—

Cowsheds dirty	1
Cowsheds with defective floors	5
Cowsheds with insufficient light	1

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

On the register there are 21 Factories and 38 Workshops and Workplaces, including 9 Bakehouses. 51 inspections have been made, and the following defects found and subsequently remedied:—

No lavatory accommodation	1
Defective lavatory accommodation	1
Want of cleanliness	1

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year one sample of water was submitted for analysis, and this was unfavourably reported upon by the County Analyst.

Early in the year trouble was experienced at Bredgar in connection with a new house, which had been inhabited without the provision of a proper water supply. Finally the owner, under pressure by your Council, laid on a piped supply. A piped supply was also provided at two houses in Bobbing Parish, following an outbreak of Diphtheria in that village. Seven cottages in Upchurch, which were without a proper supply of water, have now been provided with same, the tenants being allowed to take their water from an adjoining well. Improved supplies have also been provided at four cottages, Four Oaks, Murston (there it was found necessary to deepen the well), and at one cottage in Iwade where the water storage tank was emptied and cleansed.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the support they have given me in my work during the year.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

PERCY SCHOFIELD.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Borough of Queenborough,

For the Year 1920.

Borough of Queenborough.



THE CORPORATION.

COUNCILLOR S. JOHNSON, J.P., *Mayor*.

ALDERMAN E. W. JAFFRAY, J.P., *Deputy and Ex-Mayor*.

Alderman F. CHAMPION.

„ J. S. BILLS.

„ J. STEVENS.

Councillor S. AUSTIN.

„ T. W. BRIGHTMAN.

„ W. S. FENTON.

„ G. H. GILES.

„ R. J. JENNINGS.

„ W. LODDER.

„ C. J. LEEMING.

„ B. J. MAYLAND.

„ MRS. RUNHAM.

„ C. R. STEVENS.

„ F. STEVENS.

Town Clerk—E. CECIL HARRIS, *Solicitor*.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector—HORATIO SMALL,
M.R.S.I.

Health Visitor and District Nurse—Nurse COOPER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1920.

TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OF QUEENBOROUGH.

MR. MAYOR, LADY, AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1920.

THE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT.—I consider the most urgent is better school accommodation. The Bethel Sunday School with the striped-coloured windows must be most detrimental to the eyesight. The building in my opinion is not at all suitable for a school. I hope this will receive your careful consideration. I came to this conclusion during the War, but thought nothing could be done till peace was declared. As regards Housing Accommodation, I am glad to hear this is going to be much improved.

A Hospital for the whole Island is badly needed.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.—The Registrar-General estimates the population to the middle of 1920 to be 3,485. In 1911 the population at the Census was 2,468.

BIRTHS.—During 1920 there were 102 births registered, of which 1 was illegitimate. During 1919 there were 71, and 1918 83; in 1917 there were 81, and 1916 104. The Birth Rate was 29.2, compared with 20.3 in 1919. The Birth Rate for England and Wales was 25.4.

DEATHS.—During 1920 there were 32 deaths compared with 34 in 1919, and 33 in 1918. The Death Rate is 9.1, as compared 10.1 in 1919. The rate for England and Wales is 12.4.

INFANT MORTALITY.—During 1920 there were 9 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving a mortality of 88.2 per 1,000 births. The rate for England and Wales is 80.

SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1920.

TYPHOID FEVER.—One case during the year appeared, with an average of 1 case per annum during the preceding 5 years.

SCARLET FEVER.—Eight cases appeared, with an average of 16 during the preceding 5 years.

DIPHTHERIA.—Fourteen cases, mostly children, with an average age of 8 years. These cases were clinically slight. The average number for the preceding 5 years was 17.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Four cases were notified, all of Consumption. Three were males with an average age of 21, and 1 was a female, age 21. The average number notified during the preceding 5 years was 6.

PNEUMONIA.—One case was notified.

No case of Erysipelas or Puerperal Fever occurred.

MALARIA.—During the year 12 cases came to our notice, as compared with 26 in 1919, 27 in 1918, and 11 in 1917. Of these 12 cases 3 were imported, that is infected abroad. Of the others, some were cases infected in Queenborough in previous years, so that the following table showing fresh infections arising during the different years, gives a better indication of the incidence of Malaria in the district than the number of notifications does.

Year.	Fresh Infections.				Notifications.	
1911	1	...	...	...	—
1914	4	...	...	...	—
1917	22	...	...	...	11
1918	13	...	...	...	27
1919	20	...	...	...	26
1920	6	...	...	...	12

During 1920 there were 6 fresh indigenous cases infected and 3 old indigenous cases relapsed, 3 old imported cases were notified, of which 1 had a relapse of the disease. Of the 66 known indigenous cases in the district only 9 had attacks during the year. Of these 9 six were original or first attacks, and three only were relapses. These 9 cases occurred in 6 houses. The localities chiefly affected were:—

Comyn Terrace	.....	2 cases
Stanley Avenue	.....	5 cases
Swale House	.....	1 case
North Road	.....	1 case

The majority of the cases occurred in a small area east of the Railway Station, and the part of Queenborough nearest to Holme Place. This part of Queenborough has always had the heaviest incidence of this disease since notification began, hence the association of Malaria in Queenborough with Holme Place Camp, where a large number of convalescent Malarial soldiers were housed by the War Office in 1917-18. In this neighbourhood also are collections of surface water in which mosquitoes have been shown to breed. These ponds have been dealt with during the year, and the whole of the marshy land in this neighbourhood will, I hope, shortly be thoroughly drained, as it is about to be developed as a building site.

The incidence, therefore, of Malaria in Queenborough during 1920 is much better than during 1919, and also much better than 1918.

The fact that only 3 of the 60 known cases existing in the district before 1920 relapsed during this year, shows that the treatment of the cases is satisfactory. Mosquito nets are now provided for all cases as soon as they are reported, and advice is given to keep all such houses free from mosquitoes.

I therefore anticipate that Malaria in future will gradually die out of the district, and will not be a source of so much sickness and incapacity as in the years during the War.

In August, 1919, at the request of the Ministry of Health, the Council appointed Dr. Orr to be their Medical Officer under Article XI. of the Malaria Regulations. In October, on Dr. Orr leaving the district, Dr. Madwar was appointed. He is constantly in touch with all the cases of this disease in Queenborough.

The following Table gives particulars of the known cases in the District:—

KNOWN CASES OF MALARIA.

No.	Initials.	Age	Address.	Date of Infection.	Date of Last Attack.	Parasites found.	Remarks.
1	M.W.	32	10, Stanley Avenue	1911	1918	No	Grandmother of these Children, who lived at Queenborough, had ague all her life
2	P.S.	13	1, Comyn Terrace	1914	ditto	No	
3	V.S.	9	ditto	ditto	1914	No	
4	E.S.	11	ditto	ditto	ditto	No	
5	J.S.	7	ditto	ditto	ditto	No	
6	M.K.	44	24, Castle Street	July, 1917	1918	Yes	Left district
7	L.M.	33	ditto	ditto	ditto	Yes	Left district
8	C.V.B.	23	39, Stanley Avenue	ditto	ditto	Yes	See Nos. 6 and 7
9	G.K.	46	24, Castle Street	August, 1917	1917	No	Since died
10	G.H.	25	27, ditto	ditto	1918	Yes	
11	E.G.	28	7, Comyn Terrace	September, 1917	ditto	Yes	
12	F.K.	45	20, Castle Street	ditto	ditto	Yes	
13	A.U.	29	9, North Road	ditto	ditto	Yes	
14	A.A.	23	12, Woodhall Terrace	ditto	1917	No	}
15	F.L.	10	25, Castle Street	October, 1917	1918	Yes	
16	W.C.H.	3	10, Railway Terrace	ditto	ditto	Yes	
17	G.D.	18	27, First Avenue	ditto	1917	Yes	
18	M.U.	28	9, North Road	ditto	1918	Yes	
19	W.U.	3	ditto	ditto	1917	No	} See No. 13
20	S.E.	4½	5, Comyn Terrace	ditto	ditto	Yes	
21	A.S.	9	95, High Street	ditto	January, 1919	No	
22	E.Y.	45	6, Comyn Terrace	November, 1917	1918	Yes	
23	A.C.	14	29, Harold Street	ditto	ditto	Yes	
24	M.F.	46	Essex House	ditto	1917	No	}
25	L.R.	17	11, Harold Street	ditto	ditto	No	
26	I.R.	12	ditto	ditto	ditto	No	
27	F.R.	14	ditto	ditto	ditto	No	
28	H.Y.	9	6, Comyn Terrace	January, 1918	1918	Yes	
29	W.S.	10	2, Woodhall Terrace	May, 1918	ditto	Yes	See No. 21
30	M.L.	30	26, Castle Street	June, 1918	ditto	No	Left district
31	W.R.	57	ditto	July, 1918	ditto	Yes	
32	H.W.	13	14, North Road	ditto	ditto	Yes	
33	M.S.	35	1, Comyn Terrace	September, 1918	ditto	No	
34	A.D.	10	19, Harold Street	ditto	ditto	No	
35	J.W.	34	14, Stanley Avenue	1916	April, 1919	No	See Nos. 2 to 5
36	G.L.A.	3	161, High Street	November, 1918	1918	Yes	
37	R.B.	6	27, Harold Street	ditto	June, 1919	Yes	
38	J.W.	15	14, North Road	ditto	1918	Yes	
							Imported from West Africa
							See No. 31

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE.

During the year 35 cases of Measles, 8 Diphtheria, 1 Scarlet Fever, 13 Whooping Cough, 1 Malaria.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Nurse Cooper is the District Nurse and Health Visitor of the district, and is also the Superintendent of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, and is still doing very good work, and is much appreciated by the medical attendant.

The Child Welfare work has progressed satisfactorily. The new Jaffray Centre (a converted large Army Hut), opened in March, 1920, is fitted with Medical Officer's consulting room, Nurse's consulting room, surgery, store, and a large hall, which is to be used for lectures, classes in garment making, and general Welcome purposes, including, I hope, in the near future, an Ante-Natal Centre.

The following figures give a good idea of the work which was carried out during the year:—

Notifications of Births in Queenborough for the year 1920:

By Doctors	42
By Midwives	42
	—
Total	84
	—

Stillbirths

3

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum

1

Number of Midwives practising

1

Name—Mrs. L. RUNHAM, High Street, Queenborough.

INFANT WELFARE WORK.—

Notification visits

84

Subsequent visits (Infants under 1 year) 1662

Ditto (Children 1-5 years)

1609

DEATHS IN QUEENBOROUGH UNDER 1 YEAR FOR 1920.

	Sex.	Age.	Cause.
1	F.	10 months ..	Meningitis
2	M.	7 months ..	Capillary Bronchitis
3	F.	3 months ..	Gastro Intestinal Catarrh
4	F.	2 months ..	Gastro Intestinal Catarrh
5	M.	30 hours	Debility at Birth
6	M.	2 months ..	Presumably Catarrh
7	F.	3 months ..	Umbilical Hernia
8	F.	24 days.....	Septicæmia
9	M.	10 months ..	Shock and Intestinal Hæmorrhage, produced by accidentally falling over scullery step (inquest)

The Child Welfare Centre is open every Wednesday, average weekly attendances being:—

Mothers	30
Babies	37

MILK FOR NECESSITOUS MOTHERS. — The Council in November authorized the Health Visitor and Medical Officer to supply milk (dried or fresh) free in necessitous cases to nursing and expectant mothers or infants. Glaxo and Virol have been supplied, at cost price, for a long time at the Mothers' Welcome, also cod liver oil and malt and other medical foods.

MATERNITY.

I consider it is very important to start a Maternity-Ante-Natal Centre in your Borough, the Childs' Welfare could be used for this purpose. One half-day a month would, in my opinion, be often enough, considering the average number of births.

The co-operation of the Midwife is valuable. Patients should be advised to attend at stated intervals during pregnancy, and should be informed of any special treatment advised by the Ante-Natal Medical Officer. Similar co-operation by your District Nurse also is valuable.

DENTAL TREATMENT.—Where the Medical Officer advises dental treatment in an expectant or nursing mother it would be wise to pay the cost in the case of mothers unable to pay themselves.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—The County Council have now provided facilities for the special treatment of these diseases in the Island of Sheppey.

I consider a Maternity Centre is very urgently required, and this could be in conjunction with the proposed Cottage Hospital for the Island.

CAUSES OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1919.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Consumption or Tuberculosis	3	—	3
Cancer	3	—	3
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Influenza	—	1	1
Bronchitis	2	—	2
Pneumonia	—	1	1
Heart Disease	1	4	5
Congenital Debility	1	—	1
Other Causes	5	10	15
Totals.....	15	17	32

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Surveyor's Office, Queenborough,
10th March, 1921.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit to you my report on the general sanitary conditions of the Borough, and the work carried out in connection therewith during the year 1920.

SCAVENGING.—The scavenging during the year has been carried out satisfactorily. The tarring of the road has undoubtedly brought about increased cleanliness.

It is regretted that no improvement was shown in the removal of house refuse, although every possible effort was made to keep premises clear of refuse.

This work is now being carried out by our own labour, and considerable improvement has already been shown during February of 1921. Some premises still need to be provided with sanitary dustbins; owners are being pressed to provide these in order to obviate any nuisance arising.

OVERCROWDING.—During the early part of the year overcrowding was very acute, but towards the end of the year this evil was to some extent mitigated by the lack of employment in the district.

The Council's Certificate of fitness for habitation was granted for two houses. Frequent inspections were made during the building and final inspection on completion.

INSPECTIONS, ETC. — Nine houses have been inspected throughout, and action taken to have the premises put in a proper state of repair. A large number of minor inspections of premises have been carried out, and all defects were caused to be made good by the owners.

Frequent inspections have been made of the one Slaughter-House in the district which is kept in very good order.

The water supply for the year has been maintained, and the service is constant.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

HORATIO SMALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of Sheerness,

For the Year 1920.

Sheerness Urban District Council.

1920-21.

Chairman—W. J. THWAITES, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—W. N. RULE, J.P., C.C.

COUNCILLOR J. AUTY,

„ J. BARBER,

„ P. BARNES,

„ MRS. A. DURANT,

„ E. W. JACOBS,

„ W. H. MASON,

„ W. J. PENNEY, J.P.

„ A. SPEARS, J.P.

„ S. H. THOMSETT,

„ G. WOODTHORPE.

Clerk to the Council—V. H. STALLON, Solicitor.

Surveyor and Chief Engineer (until August)—

MR. H. R. CRABB, A.M.I.C.E.

Consulting and Superintending Engineer—

MR. F. W. S. STANTON, A.M.I.C.E., F.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector and Acting Surveyor (from August)—

MR. F. R. GRAY, M.I.M.E., M.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector—MR. GREEN.

Superintendent of Mothers' Welcome and Health Visitor—

NURSE AYLWARD.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1920.

TO THE SHEERNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1920.

I am pleased to state that the four urgent requirements of your district specially mentioned by Dr. Barrett Heggs in his report of last year have received your consideration, and, with one exception, attention. I refer to:—

- (1) WATER SUPPLY.—During the past year your third bore-hole proved a success, and we might reasonably expect a constant and sufficient water supply at an early future date.
- (2) SEWERAGE.—A scheme for the remodelling and extending your sewerage scheme has been prepared and accepted, and a loan acquired for its effective operation, and I trust that ere this year is completed, the work will be well in hand.
- (3) HOUSING.—There are still over 200 occupied dwelling houses in your area which have been represented as Unfit for human habitation, but the Council are helping matters by the erection of 156 houses in Botany Road, and a further 20 in Coronation Road. It is hoped that these will to some extent minimise the present overcrowding.
- (4) HOSPITAL PROVISION.—Still badly needed, but apparently little progress made.

I thank you for your support to your Health Department during the year, and trust that the necessary works required to put the district into a secure and satisfactory sanitary state will be proceeded with at the earliest possible moment.

Your having appointed Mr. Green as an Assistant Sanitary Inspector will, I feel sure, add in a large degree to efficiency of the sanitary work in your Urban District.

I wish to record my appreciation of the value to the public health of Sheerness of the services of your Sanitary Inspector, who not only takes a broad view of his duties, but is indefatigable in his execution of them. He is one of the best Inspectors I have ever had the pleasure of working with.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDS GIBSON.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1920, COMPARED WITH 1919,
1918, 1917, AND 1916.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.9	13.3	18.5	12.9	10.5
Infant Mortality (percentage dying under one year)	7.6	9.11	10.6	7.86	5.5
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	30.7	21.4	18.3	22.2	27.4
Total Infectious Diseases (excluding Con- sumption and Measles)	117	42	43	66	80
Cases of Typhoid Fever.. .. .	24	8	8	5	6
Cases of Diphtheria	45	16	14	10	9
Cases of Scarlet Fever	31	10	12	12	47
Cases of Tuberculosis notified (all forms)..	44	32	30	25	31
Deaths from Tuberculosis	15	26	23	22	17
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	3	1	3	5

In England and Wales Infant Mortality 8%

TYPHOID FEVER.—Altogether 6 cases were notified, three from Marine Town and 3 from Mile Town. The average for the preceding five years was 11 cases per annum.

DIPHTHERIA.—Altogether 9 cases were notified, 4 from Marine Town, 4 from Mile Town, and 1 from Blue Town. Two of these cases were imported. The average for the preceding five years was 42 cases per annum.

SCARLET FEVER.—Altogether 47 cases were notified, of which one was imported. Of these 17 were notified from Marine Town, 23 from Mile Town, and 7 from Blue Town. The average for the preceding five years was 24 cases per annum.

ERYSIPELAS.—Two cases were notified, as compared with an average of 7 for the past five years.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Altogether 31 cases were notified, 26 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Consumption, and 5 cases of Tuberculosis in other forms. Of the lung cases 15 were males and 11 females, and the average age of the males was 27 years, and of the females 30 years. The figure of the 31 cases compares favourably with the average for the preceding five years, which was 33 cases per annum.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1920.

Disease.	Total number notified	Districts.				Number removed to Hospital
		Marine Town	Mile Town	Blue Town	West Minster	
Diphtheria	9	4	4	1	—	8
Erysipelas	2	—	2	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	47	17	23	7	—	44
Enteric Fever	6	3	3	—	—	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	3	1	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	26	12	11	1	2	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5	1	3	1	—	—
Malaria	8	2	3	2	1	—
Pneumonia following Influenza	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	1	1	—	—	—
Grand Totals ..	111	43	52	13	3	56

The Patients were removed in each of the above cases of removal to
Keycol Hill Isolation Hospital, Sittingbourne.

MALARIA.—Altogether 8 cases were notified, of which 6
were ex-soldiers infected abroad, so that only 2 cases contracted
locally were notified.

TOTALS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SHEERNESS,
FOR THE YEAR 1900 TO 1920 INCLUSIVE.

Years	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Scarlet Fever	14	16	—	21	35	90	32	58	31	51	64	69	41	80	132	56	31	10	12	12	47
Diphtheria	3	16	—	4	17	19	4	2	8	7	11	7	6	10	65	130	45	16	14	10	9
Typhoid	40	25	—	16	23	18	42	7	21	28	15	7	6	4	21	20	24	8	8	5	6
Small-Pox	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C.S. Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	26	29	18	27	23	18	15	15	8	4	7	2	2
Consumption (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	39	50	34	36	44	32	30	25	31
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—

October, 1911—Removal of cases to Keycol Hospital commenced.

DEATHS UNDER THE AGE OF ONE YEAR.

1920	Sex.	Area.	Age.	Cause.
January ..	F.	Marine Town	5 days ..	Atelectaxis
ditto ..	F.	Mile Town ..	7 months	Morbilli
ditto ..	M.	ditto ..	28 hours ..	Debility from Birth
ditto ..	F.	Blue Town ..	3 days ..	Convulsions
ditto ..	M.	Marine Town	1 month ..	Broncho-Pneumonia
February	F.	ditto ..	7 days ..	Congenital Debility
ditto ..	F.	Mile Town ..	3 months	Bronchitis
March ..	F.	ditto ..	2 months	Debility from Birth
ditto ..	M.	ditto ..	11 days ..	Debility from Birth
ditto ..	F.	Blue Town ..	11 months	Gastro Enteritis
ditto ..	F.	ditto ..	1 month ..	Acute Bronchitis
ditto ..	F.	Mile Town ..	14 days ..	Acute Bronchitis
April ..	M.	Marine Town	2 months	Bronchitis
ditto ..	M.	Mile Town ..	9 months	Dentition
ditto ..	M.	Marine Town	9 months	Dentition
ditto ..	M.	Mile Town ..	11 days ..	Meningitis (3 days)
May ..	F.	ditto ..	10 months	Tubercular Peritonitis
ditto ..	F.	Marine Town	31 hours ..	Debility from Birth
June ..	M.	Blue Town ..	6 days ..	Carcinoma
September	M.	Mile Town ..	2 months	Gastro Enteritis
October ..	M.	ditto ..	11 months	Gastro Enteritis
ditto ..	F.	Marine Town	10 months	Debility from Birth
ditto ..	M.	Mile Town ..	2 months	Convulsions
November	F.	Marine Town	29 days ..	Debility from Birth
December	F.	Mile Town ..	12 days ..	Hæmorrhage from Mucus Infusion (5 days)

NOTIFICATIONS OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
RECEIVED FROM SHEERNESS SCHOOLS DURING 1920.

			Measles	Chicken Pox	Whooping Cough	Mumps	Ringworm	Skin Disease	Influenza
January ..	..	..	93	3	1	-	3	7	-
February	..	..	150	-	4	1	7	5	-
March ..	..	..	4	-	1	-	1	3	-
April ..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May ..	..	..	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
June ..	..	..	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
July ..	..	..	-	10	-	-	1	1	-
August ..	..	..	-	4	-	-	1	3	-
September	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October ..	..	..	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
November	..	..	-	2	-	1	1	-	-
December	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ..			248	20	6	3	15	21	2

I gladly acknowledge the co-operation of many of the Head Teachers in this notification of communicable diseases to the Health Department. Upon receipt of this information we supply the parent with printed instructions for the treatment of the disease to prevent its spread, also the Health Visitor is informed in certain cases, and she visits the home and gives advice. The cases also are notified to the School Nurse, who has certain duties in these matters. The effect, therefore, is not only to help the child, and to prevent the spread of disease, but also to get children back to school as soon as possible. It is, therefore, in the interests of the Head Teachers to notify. I trust, therefore, that the reluctance to notify displayed in some cases will entirely disappear. It will be noted that no school is mentioned by name in this report, so that the notifications are not used to advertise any school's misfortune in having cases of communicable disease.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.—The population is that registered and corrected by the Registrar-General for 1920 to be 17,071, exclusive of the Naval shore population and the Garrison, but including non-civilians enlisted from the district whether serving at home or abroad. This population is used for Birth Rate calculations. For Death Rate calculations all non-civilians are excluded, and this is estimated to be 15,947.

BIRTHS.—During 1920 there were 468 births registered, compared with 356 in 1919, 293 in 1918, 362 in 1917, 511 in 1916, and 418 in 1915. Of the 468 births 26 were illegitimate. The Birth Rate per 1,000 population is 27.4, compared with 22.2 in 1919. The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 25.4.

DEATHS.—During 1920 there were 169 deaths, as compared with 198 in 1919, 264 in 1918, 226 in 1917, and 231 in 1916. The Death Rate is 10.5 as compared with 12.9 in 1919. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 12.4.

INFANT MORTALITY.—During 1920 there were 26 infants who died under one year of age, of which 2 were illegitimate. In 1919 there were 28. The Infant Mortality Rate is 55 per 1,000 births, as compared with 78.6 in 1919, 106 in 1918, 91 in 1917, 76 in 1916, 154 in 1915, 160 in 1914, and 58 in 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED IN 1920.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Enteric Fever	—	1	1
Measles	1	2	3
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	7	12
Tubercular Meningitis	1	—	1
Other Tuberculosis.. .. .	4	1	5
Cancer	4	7	11
Meningitis.. .. .	2	1	3
Organic Heart Disease	9	3	12
Bronchitis	5	9	14
Pneumonia	8	5	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	—	2
Diarrhœa (under two years).. .. .	2	1	3
Appendicitis	2	2	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1
Nephritis	1	4	5
Parturition	—	3	3
Congenital Debility	4	5	9
Violence	3	—	3
Suicide	3	—	3
Other defined Diseases	29	29	58
Causes ill defined	2	—	2
	87	82	169

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Urban District Council in October, 1911, entered into an agreement with the Sittingbourne and Milton Joint Hospital Board for the isolation of their cases of infectious disease at Keycol Hill Hospital, for a period of three years. The agreement terminated on the 30th September, 1914, but was renewed on the 1st of October, 1914, for a period of seven years.

The agreement was extended to include the isolation of Small-pox patients, from the 8th of January, 1915.

Cases isolated at Keycol were as follows:—

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Scarlet Fever ..	76	126	50	29	6	12	11	44
Diphtheria	10	64	113	40	14	13	10	8
Typhoid Fever..	4	16	16	17	8	8	5	4
Totals..	90	206	179	86	28	33	26	56

The cases are moved by horse ambulance to Keycol Hospital, which is about 11 miles from Sheerness. This long journey is not satisfactory for severe cases, particularly of

Typhoid Fever and Diphtheria. A Joint Isolation Hospital is required in the Isle of Sheppey for the three Authorities—Sheerness, Queenborough, and Sheppey Rural. A three-block hospital of about 30 to 40 beds would be required.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

By the Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918, every Council exercising powers under the Act (which includes all the Councils of North-East Kent Joint Districts) was compelled to establish a Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and all matters relating to the powers of the Councils in respect of this work (except raising a rate or borrowing money) shall stand referred to such Committee, and the Councils (unless the matter is urgent), shall not exercise any such powers without receiving and considering the report of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee on the matter. The Council may delegate its powers to the Committee with or without conditions as they think fit.

During 1919 Sheerness Urban District Council formed a Statutory Maternity and Child Welfare Committee from the Health Committee, with the addition of certain ladies co-opted.

Great progress is to be recorded in this work during the year. Weekly Lectures and Baby Shows and Mothers' Teas have been organised. The Welcome meets two days a week, and special consultations in the mornings. An enthusiastic band of voluntary helpers, (I particularly wish to bring to your notice the following:—Mr. Penney (Chairman) and Mrs. Durant), have rallied to the assistance of the Health Visitor, and very valuable work is being done.

Milk, dried and fresh, is provided for necessitous mothers and infants. Dried milk and Virol are sold. Garment making classes are held in addition to the routine lecturing and baby weighing of the Welcome.

The following figures give some indication of the work done in 1920:—

Births Registered.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.
Births Notified ..	Legitimate .. 341	Illegitimate 3	344
Still Births .. 5	Breast Fed .. 275	Artificial Feeding .. 69	

Of the 69 artificial fed, 37 were on Glaxo, 10 on cow's milk and barley water, 15 on Nestle's milk, and 7 on Allenbury's Food. All bottles used were of correct pattern.

Birth attended by doctors, 175; by midwives, 164.

INFANT DEATHS.—26 died under 1 year of age. Of the 26 deaths, 11 were suffering with congenital weakness, that is, were born defective, 4 died of lung diseases, and only 3 from Diarrhoea. These deaths show the need for our Ante-Natal and Maternity work.

WORK OF HEALTH VISITOR.—First visits made, 345; re-visits, 692. Total, 1,037 visits, and in addition 687 house-to-house visits were paid, and also 76 visits to cases of infectious disease, viz., 29 to Measles, 43 to Whooping Cough, and 4 to Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Total visits, 1,843.

WORK AT MOTHERS' WELCOME AND INFANT CENTRE.—4,967 attendances of mothers and 4,601 of children. 3,842 babies weighed. 307 garments made by mothers, and 33 woollies. The year ended with a successful Christmas party at which a large number of mothers and children were present. The year has been a record one for this work in Sheerness, and reflects the greatest credit on Nurse Aylward and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. All praise is due to Nurse Aylward for the wonderful way in which she has brought the Welfare to such a state of efficiency in so short a time. When she came the attendances were nil.

The Sheerness Infant Welfare Centre was first installed in one room in Trinity Road; later in two rooms at No. 17, Alma Road; and afterwards with a view to its being housed in the same premises as the Maternity Centre, at "Holborn Villa," where it was given three rooms and a glass house.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Sheerness occupies the north-west corner of the Isle of Sheppey, and has an area of 864 acres. The whole of the district is flat, and is below high water level. The rateable value is £79,506, and a rate of 1d. in the £ produces about £331.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.—At the 1911 Census the average number of persons per house was 5.68. Serious cases of overcrowding are frequently met with. A great many houses are occupied by more than one family. Houses in the older part of the town (Blue Town and Mile Town) have very little open space about them. The houses in Blue Town particularly are close packed, over 430 dwellings on just over 8 acres of land. This is the poorer part of the town. There are many two-roomed tenements in Blue Town, and the property is often found dilapidated and insanitary. The housing inspection of the town is complete, and records are kept of every house, while a more complete and detailed housing survey of the structural conditions, size of rooms, plans of drainage, etc., of every house in the district is now well in hand. Together with these particulars a complete Infectious Disease history of each house is being made.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACTS, 1909 to 1919.

Number of houses inspected during the year	340
Number of houses represented as unfit for human habitation under Section 17	4
Number of Closing Orders made by Local Authority ...	4
Number of Closing Orders determined by Local Authority	1
Demolition Orders made by Local Authority	17
Number of Closing Orders remaining in operation on the 31st December, 1920	233

Areas which are amendable under Part I. or Part II. of the Act of 1890, as UNHEALTHY AREAS.

- (a) The portion of Blue Town bounded on the NORTH SIDE by High Street, extending from Nos. 11 to 32 inclusive. On the SOUTH SIDE by the boundary wall of Well Marsh. On the EAST SIDE by a line drawn from High Street to the Well Marsh boundary wall, and including No. 11, High Street, No. 4, Shrubsole Cottage, No. 43, East Lane, and No. 34, East Lane. On the WEST SIDE by a line drawn adjacent and west of No. 32, High Street, to Charles Street, including Nos. 35 to 27, thence along Sheppey Street, including Nos. 4 to 28, to the Well Marsh boundary wall.

Approximate acreage.—Rather less than three acres.

Number of houses.—121.

Approximate population.—320.

BRIEF PARTICULARS OF CONDITIONS WHICH MAKE THE AREA UNHEALTHY:—

- (1) That out of 121 dwelling-houses there are 67 unfit for human habitation.
- (2) That the narrowness, closeness, bad arrangement of the houses within the area, and the want of light, air, and ventilation are injurious to the health of the inhabitants.
- (3) Of dwelling-houses alone there are over 40 to the acre.
- (4) Of the 121 dwelling-houses, less than 20 have garden space attached to the house.

- (b) The portion of Blue Town bounded on the NORTH SIDE by High Street, extending from No. 50, to Court House. On the WEST SIDE, from Nos. 1 to 25, West Street inclusive

On the SOUTH SIDE by Railway Road.

On the EAST SIDE by the West Side of Chapel Street.

Approximate acreage.— $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Number of houses.—170.

Approximate population.—510.

BRIEF PARTICULARS OF CONDITIONS WHICH MAKE THE AREA UNHEALTHY:—

- (1) That out of 170 dwelling-houses there are 36 unfit for human habitation.

- (2) That the narrowness, closeness, and bad arrangement of the houses within the area, and the want of light and ventilation are injurious to the health of the inhabitants.
- (3) Of dwelling-houses alone there are 30.9 to the acre.
- (4) Within the area the widest street is 25 feet.

PROPOSED ACTION:—

What immediate action is contemplated by the Local Authority with regard to—

- (a) Houses which are not and cannot be made fit for human habitation.—Closing Orders have been made, but further action is deferred for the immediate present.
- (b) Houses which are seriously defective, but can be made habitable.—Official notices have been served, and they are being made fit for human habitation as labour conditions and shortage of material allow. Owing to the large number of houses involved a high standard of fitness cannot be insisted upon, and many of the houses in respect to which Closing Orders will have been withdrawn, will have had executed repairs of a temporary nature only.
- (c) Within what time is it contemplated that conditions will be such as to warrant the demolition of the houses which are not and cannot be made fit for human habitation.—Two years.

LIST OF HOUSES DEALT WITH UNDER SECTIONS 17 AND 18 OF THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1919, DURING THE YEAR 1920, AND STILL REMAINING:—

CLOSING ORDERS MADE:—

MILE TOWN—Total, 122.

Bell Alley—Nos. 35, 41, 43, 28, 30, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, & 45.

Broad Street—No. 4.

Chapel Square—Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Court's Buildings—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

High Street Passage—Nos. 1, 9, and 10.

High Street—Nos. 113, 167, 169, and 226.

Hotel Passage—1, 2, 3, and 4.

Hope Street—Nos. 19, 19a, 19b, 21, 21a, 21b, 40a, 42a, 53, 55, 57, 59, and 79.

Invicta Road—Nos. 181 and 183.

North Passage—Nos. 1 and 1a.

North Street Passage—No. 3.

Rose Street—Nos. 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 58, 60, 53, 55, 71, and 73.

Russell Street—Nos. 20a, 58, 79, 79a, 79b, 81, 81a, 81b, 83, 85, 89b, 100, and 102a.

Railway Road—Nos. 16, 24, and 25.

Spring Garden Passage—Nos. 20, 20a, 21, 21a, 30a.

Short Street—No. 30.

Shakespeare's Court—Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

Trinity Place—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Victory Street—Nos. 12, 14, 16, 18a, 18, 20, 20a, 19, 34, and 36.

Wood Street—Nos. 12, 12a, 14, 14a, 16, 16a, 16b, 16c, back of No. 18, and No. 23.

BLUE TOWN—Total, 105.

Bethel Passage—Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 4, 6, 16, and 18.

Bentham Square—Nos. 1, 1a, 2, 3, 3a, 4, 4a, 5, and 6.

Chapel Street—Nos. 32, 49, and 51.

Charles Street—Nos. 6, 10, 12, and 27.

East Lane—Nos. 2, 8, 10, 12, 14, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, and 42. Nos. 15, 17, 19, 21, 31, 33, 35, 37, and 39.

Edward Street—Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

King Street—Nos. 4, 6, 11, 26, 28, 30, 25, 29, 31, 33, 32, 37, and 43.

High Street—Nos. 31 and 32.

Kent Street—Nos. 1, 4, 9, 5, 6, and 6a.

Shrubsole's Cottages—Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Sheppey Street—Nos. 14, 14a, 24, 26, 28, 8, 10, 12, and 12a.

Short Street—Nos. 2, 4, 6, 7, and 8.

School Lane—Nos. 1 and 2.

Union Street—Nos. 19, 24, 26, 28, and 30.

West Lane—No. 5.

West Passage—No. 8.

West Street—No. 38.

List of Houses dealt with under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919, during the year ending December, 1920:—

CLOSING ORDERS MADE—

Nos. 74, 74a, 76, and 76a, Russell Street.

CLOSING ORDER DETERMINED—

No. 22, Chapel Street.

DEMOLITION ORDERS MADE—

No. 30, Union Street.

No. 18, Bethel Passage.

No. 7, Edward Street.

No. 7, Short Street,

Nos. 12 and 14, East Lane.

No. 20a, Russell Street

No. 12a, Sheppey Street.

Nos. 31 and 39, East Lane.

No. 42, East Lane.

No. 102a Russell Street.

Nos. 3 and 4, Chapel Square.

No. 226, High Street.

No. 21b, Hope Street, and No. 43, Bell Alley.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED AFTER ORDER—

No. 22 (at one time 18), Sheppey Street.

Nos. 1, 2, and 3, High Street Passage.
No. 260, High Street.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACT, 1909.

MEMORANDUM ON THE REPAIR OF HOUSES CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HABITATION.

(Approved by the Sheerness Health Committee.)

Particulars of work required to be executed in order to render Dwelling-houses fit for Habitation after Closing Orders have been made.

ROOFS.—All roofs to be made thoroughly sound and weather-proof; gutters and spouting to be put in perfect order and renewed if necessary.

WALLS.—Walls to be thoroughly repaired and made sound. Perished brickwork to be made good. Repointing to be done where necessary. Bulged portions to be taken out and rebuilt. Where a wooden house is closed it must be rebuilt in brick.

DAMPNESS.—A damp-proof course to be provided to all damp walls, at or about the ground level, of approved material. The walls not to be re-papered (they may be colour-washed) until they are in a dry condition.

VENTILATION UNDER FLOORS.—Ventilation bricks to be provided beneath all wooden floors where practicable.

PLASTER.—All old, defective, and wet plaster on walls to be hacked off, and the whole surface re-plastered with good cement plaster.

CEILINGS.—Ceilings to be repaired and made thoroughly sound.

FLOORS.—All floors to be made sound and even; all perished brick to be replaced, and where necessary the whole floor to be relaid. Wooden floors and cement floors to be made sound and repaired where necessary.

LIGHT AND VENTILATION.—Every room in the house to be properly lighted and ventilated; where necessary new windows to be provided or existing windows to be enlarged to at least $\frac{1}{10}$ of the floor area. Where necessary, in order to improve the lighting, the existing windows to be lifted up to the level of the ceilings. Every window to be capable of being opened and fixed open. Broken panes to be replaced, and where necessary sashes to be renewed, and proper window sills provided.

WOODWORK.—All woodwork, such as doors, windows, cupboards, skirtings, bannister rails, etc., to be repaired and made thoroughly sound. All hinges and fastenings to be put in good condition and to work properly. Staircases to be thoroughly sound and rebuilt or repaired as may be necessary.

CUPBOARDS AND PANTRY.—Every living-room to be provided with a suitable closed cupboard, and where there is no separate pantry, the cupboard to be ventilated into the open-air and provided with a window and frame at least 24in. by 18in. The cupboard, pantry, or larder should not adjoin any fireplace or chimney flue.

FIREPLACE.—A sound fire-grate of approved construction, comprising both oven and boiler, to be provided in the living-room. All chimneys to be in good working order.

WATER SUPPLY AND SINK.—The water supply service to be brought inside the house, and the tap fixed over a glazed stoneware sink, provided with a 1½in. lead syphon, trapped waste-pipe, the waste-pipe to discharge on to a channel leading to a gully trap in the yard.

PAVING.—The paving outside the house to be made thoroughly sound and relaid where necessary. Where no paving exists sufficient cement concrete paving to be provided. A cement concrete paving to consist of a foundation 4in. thick, of one part cement to five of ballast, with a finished surface consisting of one part cement to two parts of slag.

WATER CLOSETS.—The water closets to be in thorough repair and the roof weather-proof; the water closets to be properly lighted and ventilated, the flushing cistern in good order, and the woodwork and pan sound. (Pans of the long-hopper type prohibited.)

DRAINS AND GULLIES.—Drains to be tested and made thoroughly sound, and approved gullies to be provided where necessary.

PAINTING, &c.—All old paint on woodwork, both inside and outside the building, to be burnt off, and re-painted with two coats of paint. All old paper to be removed. Walls to be colour-washed or re-papered.

OUTBUILDINGS.—Where outbuildings exist, these are to be put into thorough repair, and to be limewashed or colour-washed where necessary.

ASHBIN.—A sufficient and suitable galvanised iron receptacle, with a proper lid, to be provided for ashes at each house.

All work will be inspected and approved by the Medical Officer of Health on completion.

Owners are advised before proceeding with repairs to send specification of work proposed to be done to the Medical Officer of Health, Health Department, Council Offices, Sheerness.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE WORKING-CLASSES.

There are 123 back-to-back cottages in Sheerness, 88 of which are in Mile Town, 31 in Blue Town, and 4 in West Minster. In addition there are 140 cottages with no through ventilation, of which 85 are in Blue Town, 50 in Mile Town, and 4 in West Minster. These houses, by reason of their lack of proper and sufficient ventilation cannot be regarded as satisfactory in however good repair they may be kept.

STEAM DISINFECTOR.—During the year disinfection was effected where needed, and a grand total of 915 articles of clothing of every description passed through the disinfector. There was also a total of 54 books of various kinds fumigated in the Council's special fumigating room. I am pleased to state that no complaint of any kind has been received, again demonstrating the efficiency of the machine, and the carefulness of the disinfector attendant.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—A water carriage system of sewerage serves the whole of the district. Owing, however, to the absence of a continuous water supply, and the expense of storage cisterns, there are still 1,375 houses in Sheerness without flushing cisterns to water closets. There is no treatment of sewage, which is held up in storage tanks and discharged at ebb tide into the Medway. The necessity of dealing with the main drainage of the district and with the sewerage pumping station has been accepted by the Council, who are fully aware of the danger to Public Health which continually threatens the district from the leaking sewers and defective water service pipes, and a Sewerage Scheme, having for its purpose the extension and remodelling of the present sewerage has been drawn out by Mr. F. W. S. Stanton, the Council's Consulting Engineer. In this scheme there is a plan for the treatment of the sewage before discharge into the Medway. The Council have accepted the scheme as a whole, but owing to the large expense involved, some £104,000, they resolved to carry out the scheme by successive instalments of about £10,000. The first of these instalments, involving the erection of two pumping stations and a length of new sewerage, has been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health after enquiry, and a contract arranged as between the Council and a Sewerage Contractor, and progression has been so marked that the work is actually well in hand.

WATER SUPPLY.—The present water supply is on the "Intermittent" principle, and is derived from deep wells. The Council have constructed a storage reservoir on the summit of Southdown Hill, near Halfway Houses, capable of containing 1,000,000 gallons of water, or three days' supply. In addition to the supply of water from the old wells in Trinity Road, the Council hope to supplement the yield by putting

into operation the recently sunk deep well at Sheerness East, for which, by reason of the Enteric outbreak in October, 1916, loans have been sanctioned by the Treasury for the purposes of machinery and buildings. Owing to the War the work of housing the machinery had to be held over, but this last year great progress was made, and early in 1921 pumping operations were started.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are 7 premises registered in your district. On the whole they are unsuitably placed, and some are unsuitably built, in fact, in a severe condition of dilapidation.

	1914.	Jan. 1920.	Dec. 1920.
Registered	7	7	7
Licensed	Nil	Nil	Nil

HOUSE REFUSE.—The provision of proper sanitary dustbins by the owners of house property is insisted upon, where necessary, by the Council. Collection by the Council carts is made bi-weekly, and the refuse is burned in a destructor. The destructor, however, is unable to deal with the amount of house refuse collected, and the necessity for its enlargement is well known and recognised by the Council.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—There is only one set of premises used as a Dairy and Cowshed in your district. Approximately one-third of the town's milk is imported. There are twelve purveyors of milk registered in your district. The prevention of the adulteration of milk is under the supervision of the police in your district. Samples are frequently taken for analysis.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are three within your district. The condition was generally found to be satisfactory on inspection.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.—During the year 7 inspections were made of Factories, 58 of Workshops, and 4 of Workplaces. The defects found were generally want of cleanliness, which received immediate attention.

HOMEWORK.—No lists of workmen were received during the year.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.—The Workshops on the Register are as follows:—Tailoring 8, Carpenters 10, Dressmakers 8, Bakehouses 4, Shoe Repairers 6, Milliners 7, Miscellaneous 15; total 58.

MEAT AND FOOD.—During the past year the following unsound, unwholesome, and diseased foodstuffs have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

Beef—Chilled and frozen	550lbs.
Beef—Home-killed, diseased	4,236lbs.
Offal	660lbs.
Mutton—Imported	614lbs.
Lamb—Ditto	205lbs.
Pork—Diseased	280lbs.
Offal	250lbs.

Heads	210lbs.
Bacon	658lbs.
Ham	156lbs.
Livers—Frozen	91lbs.
Rabbits	225
Pork Brawn	7lbs.
Ox Tongue	6lbs.
Fish—Kippers	106lbs.
Mackerel	840lbs.
Haddock	118lbs.
Shrimps	105½gall.
Eggs	792
Sausages	25lbs.
Rolled Oats	7lbs.
Butter	8½lbs.
Cheese	56lbs.
Cakeoma	4pkts.
Tinned Goods—Tomatoes	38 tins
Lobster	3 tins.
Pineapple	14 tins
Rabbit	2 tins
Tongue	2 tins
Salmon	34 tins
Apricot	10 tins
Corned Beef	18 tins (6lbs.)
Pears	5 tins
Condensed Milk—Sweetened	158 tins
Unsweetened	85 tins
Skimmed	61 tins

I have pleasure in reporting that in no case was it deemed necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

I trust that, eventually, the application of the Master Butchers of Sheerness (dated the 12th of January, 1915), for the erection of a Public Abattoir will materialise.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.—The work of the Sanitary Inspector has been reported on under various headings in the body of my Report, but the following summary should be added:—

NUISANCES.—Notices were issued to abate the following nuisances:—

To repair dilapidated dwellings	27
To repair defective roofs causing dampness	71
To cleanse dwellings and houses	4
To cleanse or provide rain water troughing ...	3
To prevent escape of sewer gas into houses	11
To open and repair slop drains	64
Dilapidated, defective, and choked water closets	82

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

House Inspections	672
Slaughterhouse Inspections	104
Cowshed and Dairy Inspections	34
Common Lodging-house Inspections	4
Houses Let in Lodgings	16
Workshops and Workplaces	37
Bakehouses	17
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated (including Tuberculosis)	131
Complaints received	123

RESULTS OF ABOVE INSPECTIONS.

Nuisances detected	336
Nuisances abated	260
Informal Notices issued	134
Statutory Notices issued	42
Legal proceedings instituted in respect thereof	—
Number of articles of clothing disinfected at Steam Disinfector and Fumigating Room	969
Number of patients removed to Hospital	56
New drains tested (by water)	7
Old drains tested (by smoke)	63

Faversham Port Sanitary Authority.

Milton Creek and the Western Swale is within the jurisdiction of the Port of Faversham for the purposes of sanitation and public health. The Port Sanitary Authority is the Town Council of Faversham.

For that portion of the Faversham Port comprised in Milton Creek, as defined by the Milton Creek Conservancy Act, 1899, the Medical Officer of North-East Kent United Districts has been appointed Medical Officer of Health.

I here append the Annual Report:—

TO THE FAVERSHAM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1920 of your Medical Officer for the Milton portion of the Port.

The type of vessel using the Creek and the nature of goods carried (chiefly bricks, wood pulp, London refuse, and manure), remain unchanged.

During the year I have kept the Creek under my personal supervision, and every barge using the Creek has been inspected during the year by your Sanitary Inspector.

The sanitary condition of the vessels remains satisfactory.

No foreign craft has arrived in the Creek during the year 1920.

Sanitary defects discovered in barges were remedied at once by owners without Statutory Notice being served.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—No case of infectious disease has been reported on vessels during the year.

REGULATIONS AS TO FOOD.—Very little foodstuffs is brought into this portion of the Port, and during the year no article of food was condemned as unfit.

RATS.—The Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, of 1919, makes the Port Sanitary Authority the responsible body to enforce these powers in respect to vessels. In the event of rats being discovered in a vessel notice is to be served upon the Master of the vessel, requiring him to take certain steps to prevent the escape of these vermin from the ship.

I understand that very rarely is a rat seen on the barges using Milton Creek, as owing to the barge construction rats cannot rest on them. Any action for rodent destruction on the barges as by fumigation would, therefore,

not appear to be called for. Attention shall be given to vessels from foreign ports.

The collections of London refuse for the brickfields deposited near the wharves are breeding places, but now action in respect of these is being taken by the respective District Authorities.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDS GIBSON.

Faversham, December, 1920.

FAVERSHAM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Gentlemen,—

I beg most respectfully to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1920.

During the year I made the following inspections:—

At Faversham Creek	335
At Oare Creek	108
At Milton Creek	862
At Conyer Creek	31
	<hr/>
	1,336
	<hr/>

The number of ships and vessels in respect of which such inspections were made was 223. In the course of the inspections I discovered 30 sanitary defects. Most of these were on barges carrying London manure, and affected chiefly questions of ventilation and lighting. In no case was it found necessary to secure written notices, as in all cases the defects were attended to readily by owners on verbal request.

The water supply has been found to be satisfactory.

Barges laden with manure have been properly cleansed when empty.

No infectious cases have been reported on vessels during the year.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. HIGHWOOD,

Inspector of Nuisances.

The Faversham Port Sanitary Authority.

D. MACDOUGALL, M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Telephone: 207 Dover.

Office: ~~RIVER DOVER~~

~~MAISON DIEU HOUSE,~~

~~DOVER.~~

July 21st 1920

Dear Sir

Re annual report of M.O.H.

In answer to your Circular
the East Kent Joint District was split up
as from the 30th June last. & under the
circumstances the Joint Committee only had
a condensed report typed. not printed

Yours faithfully

D. Mac Dougall

Calé Mort East Kent

1894

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NORTH-EAST KENT (MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,) UNITED DISTRICTS.

C.H. Mends Gibson,

~~T. BARRETT-HEGGS,~~

M.D. D.P.H.

Library MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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TU. TH. 10-11 SHEERNESS.

TELEPHONE: No. 11 SITTINGBOURNE.

" " 111 SHEERNESS.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

CHALKWELL,

SITTINGBOURNE.

July 19th 1920.

The Librarian,
British Medical Association Library,
429, Strand,
London W.C. 2.

Dear Sir,

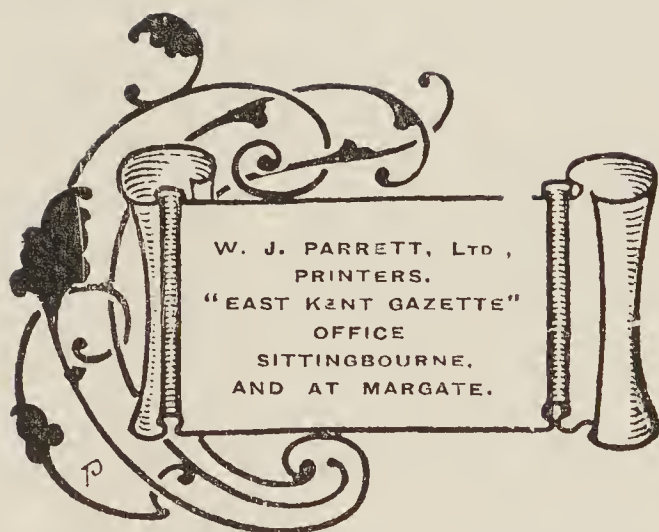
With reference to your memo regarding Report of Medical Officer of Health for the past year, I have not yet received it from the printers, when I do so I shall be very pleased to send you a copy, and shall be glad to continue to do so every year.

Yours very faithfully,

H.C. Mends Gibson
G.E.

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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